

House Study Bill 641 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE
ON COMMERCE BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON COWNIE)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to information required for inclusion in
2 petitions for an electric transmission line franchise or an
3 extension of franchise, and including effective date and
4 retroactive applicability provisions.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 478.3, subsection 2, Code 2014, is
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ob.* Petitions for transmission lines capable
4 of operating at more than one hundred kilovolts direct current
5 and either extending a distance of not less than one mile or
6 extending across state boundaries shall also demonstrate that
7 prior to filing the petition the proposed construction has
8 been examined, accepted, and identified in appendix A of the
9 most recent annual midcontinent independent system operator
10 transmission expansion plan as approved by the midcontinent
11 independent system operator board of directors, or approved
12 as part of the expansion plan of any successor regional
13 transmission organization representing the area in which the
14 proposed lines will be constructed. Notwithstanding paragraph
15 "b", this requirement shall not be subject to waiver by the
16 utilities board.

17 Sec. 2. Section 478.13, Code 2014, is amended by adding the
18 following new subsection:

19 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. If an extension is sought for
20 transmission lines capable of operating at more than one
21 hundred kilovolts direct current and either extending a
22 distance of not less than one mile or extending across state
23 boundaries, the application shall be subject to the requirement
24 in section 478.3, subsection 2, paragraph "Ob".

25 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate
26 importance, takes effect upon enactment.

27 Sec. 4. RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY. This Act applies
28 retroactively to January 1, 2014, for petitions for franchise
29 or extension of franchise filed on or after that date.

30 EXPLANATION

31 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
32 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

33 This bill relates to information required for inclusion in
34 petitions for an electric transmission line franchise and for
35 extensions of existing franchises.

1 The bill provides that in the case of petitions for
2 transmission lines capable of operating at more than 100
3 kilovolts direct current and either extending a distance of not
4 less than one mile or extending across state boundaries, the
5 petition shall demonstrate that prior to filing the petition
6 the proposed construction has been examined, accepted, and
7 identified in appendix A of the most recent annual midcontinent
8 independent system operator transmission expansion plan as
9 approved by the midcontinent independent system operator board
10 of directors, or approved as part of the expansion plan of
11 any successor regional transmission organization representing
12 the area in which the proposed line will be constructed.
13 This requirement shall not be subject to waiver by the Iowa
14 utilities board. The bill makes these provisions applicable to
15 the filing of an application for an extension of an existing
16 franchise.

17 The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies
18 retroactively to January 1, 2014, for petitions for franchise
19 or extension of franchise filed on or after that date.